



St. Sebastian Parish Council

Meeting Minutes

4/25/2024

In attendance:

Excused:

7:00PM - 7:05PM

Opening Prayer – David Newyear

7:05PM - 7:20PM

Father's Update

- Fr. Bozek will be on vacation for a month. Then shortly after he returns, he will be the administrator at St. Barbara Parish. He begins his new assignment on June 30th. There will be no seminarian or deacon to assist Fr. Valencheck for at least a year. Requests are being sent out to other parishes for priests to assist during this period. Fr. Blau O.P. will be one of the priests to help out.
- Michelle Huber is retiring at the end of the school year. She is responsible for many improvements around the parish including establishing an online presence, coordinating school tours and branded the parish among many other things.
- Lynn Stewart is close to retirement. Her last concert will be May 19th, with a reception afterwards. David Uschold will be taking over.
- A meeting was held today regarding the greenhouse with a decision on the final placement of the greenhouse. The greenhouse should be up and running by the end of the summer.
- There will be 3 seminarians around this summer. John Scantling, Christopher Villarreal and Simon.

7:20PM - 7:40PM

New Business

- Elections: Parish Council Chair, Secretary, New Members
Officers for Parish Council for 2024-25 will be Hannah Paulin (Chair), Will Gibson (Secretary), Terry Tolson (Chair elect). Council voted to approve these nominations.
New members for Parish Council starting in July 2024: Katie Karg, Mark Adamczyk, Shannon Schleter and Tony Villarreal. Alternates will be Tom Knauer and Rachel O'Neill. Council voted to approve these nominations. Parish Council terms run three years.
- End-of-Year picnic June 27, 2024
The Parish Council picnic will be a potluck. Marcy Smith will be cooking sausage and sliders while everything else will be provided by council members. A sign up sheet was circulated.

7:40PM - 8:00PM

Old Business

- Evangelization Plan update

The subcommittee has identified the Alpha program as its first foray into expanding discipleship programming at St. Sebastian. Keith Johnson, catechetical director, met with his counterpart, Gayle Oboy at St. Ambrose to answer a few questions about the program and to gain insight into implementation.

Keith did not see any downsides to implementing this program at St. Sebastian. He said that there were a few places where the program did not quite capture our Catholicism, but he said that they were unlikely to be noticeable to anyone. He said that any ‘glitches’ can be explained in a deeper way as part of the process and that the benefits of the program far outweigh minor omissions.

Alpha creates a clear vertical pathway to building a deeper relationship with God and it also creates strong horizontal connections between people.

The program is free, but a hospitality committee may need to be created to provide the meals for participants as part of each meeting. Meetings are 90 minutes and begin with a meal, a video and then a discussion of the video.

This program is endorsed and supported by the Diocese.

The subcommittee presented a recommendation to the council to adopt and implement the Alpha program at St. Sebastian.

Parish Council approved the recommendation.

Fr. Valencheck accepted this recommendation.

The team will now move forward with implementation by participating in Alpha training this summer and that plans can be made for a fall implementation.

- Music for the Masses CD Sales

The next three weekends (including Lynn’s last concert), CD sales will continue after masses. A signup sheet was circulated to volunteer to sell CDs. 50 CDs are left but more can be ordered. 100 CDs have been sold so far.

- 100th Anniversary. There is no 100th Anniversary Committee. It was decided that the Parish Council will take a leadership role leading up to 2028 when the anniversary occurs.

8:00PM - 8:25PM

Pulse of the Parish/Commission Reports

8:25PM – 8:30PM

Compline (David Newyear)

Next Meeting:

Thursday May 23, 2024 7:00PM – 8:30PM

St. Sebastian Rectory

Prayer, Compline, Refreshments – Terry Tolson

Evangelization SubCommittee Meetings: 4/30, 7:00pm, location TBD

Members: Keith Johnson, Jim Lundy, Sue Sassano, David Newyear, Christina Mastromatteo, Ed Pfeiffer, Tiffany Kenny, Susan Clark, Michelle Huber (communications/marketing).